

Message Text

SECRET

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13/14

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 AID-20 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01 /082 W

----- 117171

R 310354Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6180

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS

CINCPAC

S E C R E T BANGKOK 13616

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R M R N O N L Y, V I C E 3616

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TH, MASS

SUBJECT: RTAVF SHORTFALL

SECDEF FOR ASD: ISA AND DSAA

REF: A) STATE 154786 OF 1972 (JOINT SECSTATE-SECDEF MESSAGE

241946Z AUG 72&

B. BANGKOK 13273

1. IN REF B) WE STATED ONLY SOLUTIONS WE SAW TO MEETING US
COMMITMENT TO RTG REGARDING \$2.88 MILLION RTAVF EQUIPMENT SHORTFALL
(REPORTED REF A) WOULD BE TO SEEK SPECIAL LEGISLATION OR TO SET
ASIDE FUNDS IN A FUTURE MAP APPROPRIATION.

2. THE THAIS ARE EXPERIENCING SOME DELAY IN ABSORBING
OTHER US SUPPLIED RTAVF EQUIPMENT AND THEREFORE THE RTA IS NOT PRESSING

MACTHAI/JUSMACTHAI TO FILL THIS EQUIPMENT SHORTFALL.
THUS, WE SEE PRACTICAL SOLUTION IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE RTAVF COMMITMENT SHORTAGES AS SEPARATE IDENTIFIABLE HEADING
IN THE WORLDWIDE MAP BILL IN FY 75 AND FY 76.

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3. IN VIEW OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THE REDUCTION IN FY 73 MAP FUNDS AND THE EXPECTED LIMITED FUNDS IN FY 74 SUCH A DELAY WOULD PROVIDE TIME TO RESTRUCTURE OUR PROGRAMS TO ADJUST TO THE NEW FUNDING LEVELS BEFORE UNDERTAKING THIS EXPENDITURE AND WOULD PROBABLY MESH MORE CLOSELY WITH RTA REQUIREMENT FOR THESE SPECIFIC ITEMS.

4. IN EFFORT TO KEEP COST TO A MINIMUM, AN EFFORT MIGHT BE MADE TO LOCATE COMPATIBLE EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES (EDA) WHICH COULD BE REHABILITATED TO WORKABLE CONDITION (BUT AT CONSIDERABLY LESS COST THAN NEW EQUIPMENT) WITH MAP FUNDS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO TURN OVER TO RTG EQUIPMENT IN LIKE-NEW CONDITION, (IN DOD TERMINOLOGY SCRAM 1 AND SCRAM 2 CODED EQUIPMENT). FOR OBVIOUS POLITICAL REASONS, WE CANNOT DELIVER EDA VEHICLES IN POOR REPAIR TO RTG, EVEN IF WE WERE TO ASSURE THAI THAT REPAIR PARTS WOULD ARRIVE LATER. THIS WOULD CONVEY IMPRESSION THAT WE WERE ATTEMPTING TO DISCHARGE OUR OBLIGATION WITH JUNK. HENCE, ANY EDA VEHICLES MUST BE IN SCRAM 1 OR SCRAM 2 CONDITION WHEN THEY ARRIVE.

5. IF THIS SOLUTION APPEARS MANAGEABLE TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES, WE WOULD WANT TO LAY OUR CARDS ON THE TABLE AND EXPLAIN TO THE THAI LEADERSHIP OUR PLAN TO DISCHARGE THIS LONGSTANDING AND INCREASINGLY EMBARRASSING COMMITMENT. UNGER

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NNN

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